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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 CU-02 MCT-01 USSS-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OPR-02 /068 W
----------240051Z 109162 /60
R 231300Z DEC 76
FM AMCONSUL IZMIR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1744
INFO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A; TAGS: PINS, PINT, SEDU, TU
SUBJECT: STUDENT VIOLENCE
REF: IZMIR 406
SUMMARY: STUDENT VIOLENCE, INCLUDING AT SECONDARY SCHOOLS, TOOK FURTHER UPTURN WITH DEATHS OF A LEFTIST AND A RIGHTIST STUDENT, INCREASED POLICE ACTIVITY AGAINST LEFTISTS APPARENTLY IN REACTION TO PUBLIC CONCERN OVER RECENT BOMBINGS, AND SHARPLY HEIGHTENED MANIFESTATIONS OF CONCERN BY GOVERNOR, POLICE, SCHOOL AUTHORITIES AND PRESS. CONCURRENTLY, RIGHT-LEFT CLASHES CONTINUED IN OUTLYING PROVINCES WITH, INTER ALIA, MURDER OF RPP

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YOUTH LEADER IN TORBALI BY JP COUNTY YOUTH PRESIDENT. END SUMMARY.
1. SEVERAL THOUSAND STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN FUNERAL PRO-CESSION FOR TAMER BENIAN, ALLEGED LEFTIST STUDENT AT AU SCIENCE FACULTY, SHOUTING "MURDERER ADMINISTRATION", "DOWN WITH FASCISTS", ETC. BENIAN AND OTHER STUDENT STABBED IN IZMIR DEC. 20 BY "GROUP OF UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO FLED TOWARD HATAY ULKUCULER ASSOCIATION." POLICE RELEASED CORPSE TO DEMON-
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STRATORS, REPORTEDLY AGAINST ORDERS OF IZMIR GOVERNOR IN ORDER PREVENT DIRECT CLASH BETWEEN ANGRY STUDENTS AND POLICE.
2. RIGHTIST INTENTIONS HOLD FUNERAL PROCESSION FOR CENGIZ SEN, ONE OF THREE REPUTED"ULKU'S" WOUNDED BY GUNFIRE AT BUCA TEACHERS TRAINING INSTITUTE DEC. 21 IN WHAT APPEARED BE LEFTIST RETALIATION FOR BENIAN SLAYING, AVERTED WHEN IZMIR

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POLICE ON DEC. 22 SMUGGLED SEN'S REMAINS TO HIS HOME CITY OF DENIZLI. IZMIR GOV. EGILMEZ TOLD NEWSMEN IT HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED THAT MURDERERS OF SEN WERE LEFTISTS AND PROMISED "MORE STRICT" POLICE MEASURES.
3. INCIDENTS OCCURRING ON DEC. 22, IN EVIDENT REACTION TO EVENTS OF DEC. 20 AND 21 INCLUDED TWO SEPARATE CLASHES BETWEEN

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RIGHTISTS AND LEFTISTS AT BUCA TRAINING INSTITUTION WHEREIN SIX STUDENTS HOSPITALIZED; COMMENCEMENT OF THREE-DAY STUDENT BOYCOTT OF AEGEAN UNIVERSITY CLASSES IN PROTEST OVER BENIAN'S MURDER; AND SERIOUS INJURY OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENT, BARIS ASKIN, ATTACKED BY SEVERAL YOUTHS AS HE WAS GOING TO NAMIK KEMAL LISE (IN IZMIR'S PROSPEROUS ALSANCAK DISTRICT).
4. ON DEC. 21 AU SCIENCE FACULTY TEACHING ASSISTANT SENOL YALCIN BEATEN UNCONSCIOUS WHILE EXHORTING LEXRISTS DEMONSTRATING STUDENTS TO ATTEND CLASS. ON SAME DAY, RIGHTIST AND LEFTIST STUDENTS FOUGHT AT SUPHI KOYUNCUOGLU LISE IN BORNOVA; POLICE REPORTEDLY APPREHENDED THREE STUDENTS CARRYING KNIVES AND ONE WITH A POSTOL ALSO ON DEC. 21 PERSONS FIRED FROM CAR ON POLICE IN DOWNTOWN IZMIR AND ON JANDARMA SOME TWO KILOMETERS FARTHER. ACCORDING PRESS, NO ONE INJURED, BUT POLICE APPREHENDED CAR AND ON OF CAR'S SEVERAL OCCUPANTS.
5. AU ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON DEC. 22 ISSUED A STATEMENT DECRYING ATTACKS ON BENIAN AND YALCIN. NOTING "MAIN SOURCE OF SUCH EVENTS IS DEFINITELY OUTSIDE OUR UNIVERSITY" AND REPRESENT PURPOSES UNCONNECTED WITH THE UNIVERSITY, THE COM-

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MITTEE INSISTED THAT EVERY MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY MUST BE ASSURED SECURITY; OTHERWISE "WE SHALL HAVE TO CLOSE.
6. ON DEC. 18 IZMIR POLICE RAIDED PREMISES OF "REFORMIST YOUTH MAGAZINE", TAKING INTO CUSTODY 55 LISE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ATTENDING LECTURE ON "HISTORY OF DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM". RAID REPORTEDLY NETTED THREE PISTOLS, LEFTIST LITERATURE AND POSTERS OF MAO. GOV. EGILMEZ IN DISCUSSING THE RAID WITH NEWSMEN CITED "INCREASED ANARCHIC ACTIONS AND BOMB EXPLOSIONS OF RECENT DAYS" AS REASON FOR "MEASURES TO PREVENT SPREAD OF THESE EVENTS TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS." OF THE 55 APPREHENDED, ALL BUT THREE WERE SUBSEQUENTLY RELEASED: THE THREE ARRESTED WERE MEHMET GEZER, PRES. OF STUDENT ASSOC. AT AU JOURNALISM SCHOOL, KEMAL CIFTI, PRES. OF STUDENT ASSOC. AT AU ECON AND COMMERCIAL SCIENCES FACULTY, AND VELI BASAK OFFICER OF SAME ASSOC. AS CIFTI. GOV. EGILMEZ QUOTED AS ACCUSING THEM OF ESTABLISHING A

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SECRET ORGANIZATION IN VIOLATION OF ARTICLES 141-1 AND 141-5 OF
PENAL CODE AND PROMISED "SUCH PERSONS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED."
7. ON DEC. 20 POLICE ALSO RAIDED SUMMER HOUSE AT CESME IN
SEARCH OF "ANARCHISTS". LATTER REPORTEDLY FIRED ON POLICE, WHO
CAPTURED ONE WHILE FOUR ESCAPED. DEC. 21 EPISODE OF FIRING ON

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IZMIR POLICE AND JANDARMA (SEE PARA 4 ABOVE) BELIEVED HAVE
INVOLVED THESE ESCAPEES.
8. OTHER AREA INCIDENTS ON DEC. 16 AND 17 INVOLVING INJURY
INCLUDED RIGHT-LEFT CLASHES AT BUCA TRAINING INSTITUTION,
CINARLI (IZMIR SUBURB) CONSTRUCTION TRAINING SCHOOL, NAMIK
KEMAL LISE (SEE ALSO PARA 3), AND AT BALIKESIR TEACHER TRAINING
INSTITUTION. POLITICALLY MORE SIGNIFICANT WAS DEC. 16 ATTACK
BY TORBALI COUNTY JP YOUTH LEADERS ON THEIR RPP COUNTERPARTS,
RESULTING IN STABBING DEATH OF ABDULLAH SENGUL AND SERIOUS
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WOUNDING OF ANOTHER RPP YOUTH. IBRAHIM YENICE, JP COUNTY
YOUTH PRES., HIS BROTHER AND THREE OTHERS CHARGED WITH THE
SLAYING. FOLLOWING DAY ANOTHER RPP YOUTH, ALI KUS, WAS SHOT
AND KILLED FROM A CAR AS KUS WAS RETURNING FROM YENICE'S
FUNERAL. RPP HEADQUARTERS APPOINTED INVESTIGATION TEAM
INCLUDING IZMIR DEPUTY COSKUN KARAGUZOGLU AND PROVINCIAL
PRESIDENT EKRIM BULGUN TO INVESTIGATE THE KILLINGS.
9. COMMENT -- DEC. 13 AND 14 BOMBING, WHILE SEEMINGLY DESIGNED
AS SHOW OF FORCE BY RIGHTISTS AND LEFTISTS RATHER THAN INTENDED
CAUSE INJURY, APPEAR TO HAVE PROVOKED MUCH OF ENSUING EVENTS.
POLICE APPEAR HAVE CONDUCTED THEIR RAIDS AS CONSEQUENTIAL "GET

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TOUGH" POLICY, ALSO FURTHER EXACERBATING STUDENT TENSIONS PRO-
VOKED BY BOMBINGS. RESULTING VIOLENCE HAS PRODUCED SHARP
INTENSIFICATION OF OFFICIAL AND AND PUBLIC CONCERN, ACCOMPANIED BY
EXPRESSED DETERMINATION OF GOVERNOR AND POLICE TO USE MORE
SEVERE MEASURES (THUS FAR SEEMINGLY AGAINST LEFTISTS), SHRILL
PRESS HEADLINES, E.G., "IZMIR IS LIKE A POWDER KEG" (YENI ASIR),
RPP CLAIMS OF INDISCRIMINATE POLICE HARASSMENT (IZMIR PROV.
PRES. BULGUN), PUBLIC FRUSTATION OVER GOVERNMENT'S LACK OF
SUCCESS IN AMELIORATING THE SITUATION, AND THE PROSEPECT OF
SCHOOL CLOSURES.
MOFFETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOMBING, CIVIL DISORDERS, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: powellba
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976IZMIR00427
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760471-0810
From: IZMIR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761218/aaaaaovv.tel
Line Count: 165
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 IZMIR 406
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: powellba
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUN 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <25 OCT 2004 by powellba>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STUDENT VIOLENCE
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SEDU, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006